

# UUTC UPDATE

July 27, 2018



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS OF PENNSYLVANIA COUNTY

A WELCOMING CONGREGATION

## ARE YOU LED BY THE SPIRIT?

Alexandra Burroughs

Sunday, July 29th at 9:15am and 11:00am

During this sermon, we will reflect on the third principle of Unitarian Universalists, "Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations." Through sharing personal stories, poetry, commentary by Jung, clergy and testimony by a UU minister about life-changing experiences during a Buddhist retreat, Alexandra offers reasons to trust in the power of spirit to guide us when we feel it appear in our lives.

*Join us for coffee at 10:30am!*

*Nursery care available from 9:00am to 12:00pm.*

## NURSERY CARE — BOTH SERVICES

Our nursery is open from 9:00am to noon for children ages 0-3. Take advantage of either service at your convenience—our childcare staff would love to welcome your child.



*Be Patient.  
Everything comes  
to you in the  
right moment.*

## COMING UP at UUTC

Keys to the Kingdom — Mon 7/30 @ 5:00pm

Men's Group — Tues 7/31 @ 9:00am

SMART Recovery — Tues 7/31 @ 6pm

Eclectics — Wed 8/1 @ 9:30am

Choir — Wed 8/1 @ 4:00pm

**Team Mtg Night — Wed 8/1 @ 5:00pm**

Property Com — 8/2 @ 6:00pm



**WAKE NOW OUR VISION LEGACY  
CHALLENGE — LOW HANGING FRUIT  
THAT WILL SPOIL QUICKLY!**

We call your attention to this program because **Wake Now Our Vision** requires no grant committee, no competition, and no approval by any official UUTC group. You are in complete control, and you have the power to strengthen

various arms of Unitarian Universalism, including UUTC. **But you need to act quickly.**

**Wake Now Our Vision Legacy Challenge** is designed to encourage new *legacy* giving. A legacy gift is a gift of cash, securities or other property that is realized after you die through a beneficiary designation or your will. New legacy gift intentions made between January 1, 2017 to June 30, 2020 will qualify for a matching program *as long as matching funds remain*. **If the receiving institution is unaware of an earlier intention, it will still qualify as new.** The matching amount is 10% up to \$10,000 and the match comes from the Shelter Rock Congregation. In other words, a gift up to \$100,000 dollars will be matched by a gift from Shelter Rock in the amount of \$10,000. A \$100 gift will be matched by a gift in the amount of \$10. If no approximate amount is supplied, or if the gift cannot be accurately valued at this time, a flat match of \$1,000 will be given. Charitable Gift Annuities will count for this flat match. ***Of the five million pledged by Shelter Rock, 53% has already been allocated to match gifts already made.***

**UUA groups that qualify for these matching gifts** are [Church of the Larger Fellowship](#), Starr King School for the Ministry, UU Minister's Association, Meadville Lombard Theological School, the UUA, [UUSC](#), [The Mountain Retreat & Learning Center](#), and **qualified UU Congregations such as UUTC.**

If your gift to UUTC is listed as a percentage of your assets, then Shelter Rock will provide a flat match of \$1000. ***However, unlike your legacy gift, the contributions from Shelter Rock will begin paying out this summer to your selected groups.*** Don't miss this chance to amplify your **giving**. Fill out and sign a Legacy Challenge form and submit with supporting documentation. Forms may be found on the office counter, or downloaded from the website, below. You may also request one be mailed to you from the office — 828-877-6121 or [office@uutc.org](mailto:office@uutc.org).

Visit [wakenowourvision.org](http://wakenowourvision.org), or contact Campaign Director Laura Randall at [lrandall@uua.org](mailto:lrandall@uua.org), or call 617-948-6511 for more information. Other congregations got this same info at General Assembly!

# UUTC TREASURER'S TERM REPORT

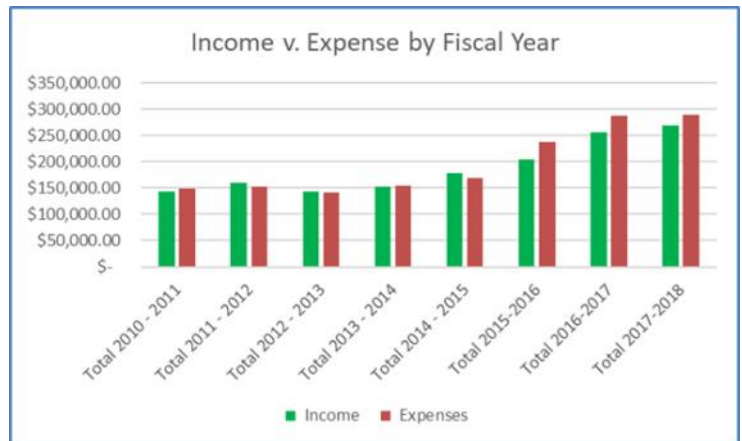
July 1 FY2015-16 to June 30 FY2017-18

by Dave Roberts

My three terms began with the retirement of the Rev. Ernie Mills and expired with the Rev. Ilene Kaur Tompkins-Gillispie nearing the end of her first year of settled ministry. In between was a kaleidoscope of change and growth.

The work of the Warm & Dry capital campaign that put on a new roof, added insulation, and installed a modernized sound and video system for the sanctuary had completed. We awaited the arrival of our first interim minister, the Rev. Paula Gable. And the Settled Minister Search Committee went to work. Many thanks are due to Bruce Kirkman, Joanna Bliss, Lauren Agrella-Sevilla, Betty Kendrick, Earle Rabb, and Ben Browning for their selfless hard work in finding the Rev. Ilene Tompkins-Gillispie for us!

The Rev. Paula spearheaded making the Church Administrator a full-time position, and so RK Young became our first full-time employee outside the ministry. RK and Rev. Paula began Team Meeting Night, an opportunity for all the teams to meet, interact as necessary, and gain insight from the minister as their organizational leader. Policy and procedures were established to begin offering musical and speaking events open to the public, which necessitated NC sales tax registration and consultation with a CPA over UBIT (unrelated business income tax). Events have been well attended and it is hoped they continue, as they provide a source of non-congregational income.



A new church management software package that will grow with us no matter how large or complex we may become was installed and operational by September of 2015, thanks to the foresight of the Board during our cherished Peg Hall's tenure as President of that body. We continue to renovate and beautify our space through donations to the Sponsored Projects fund, an idea initiated by our beloved Gary Kendrick during his term as President of the Board. Sponsored Projects has been responsible for \$54,775.55 of improvements since its inception.

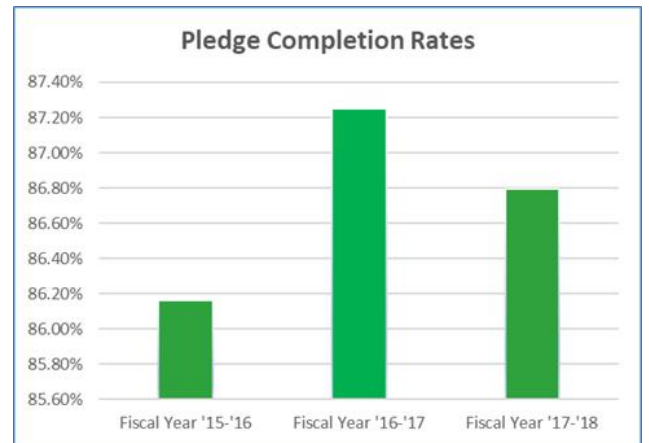
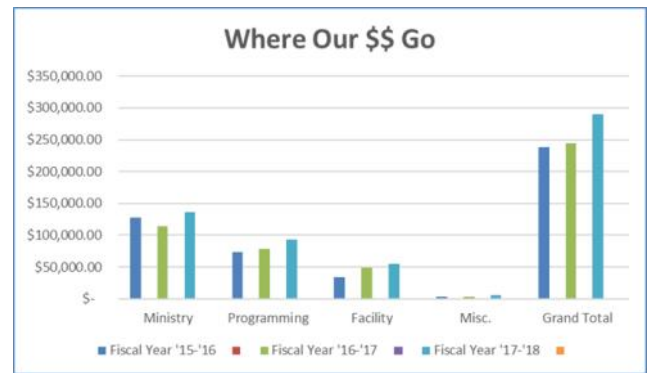
The Rev. Gable left us, and we were close to signing a contract with the Re. Cynthia Prescott when she passed away from a heart attack. With the greatest of luck, we were able to have the Rev. Ian White Maher fill our 2<sup>nd</sup> year interim slot. And lucky it was, as the candidate pool had closed for the year.

During the interim ministry of Rev. Ian, we purchased not one, but three adjoining properties in January of 2017, an endeavor many of our congregants participated in both financially and materially through donations of time and talent (*read: manual labor*), and treasure – the financial donations that **continued page 4**

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were integral to the renovations, and the furnishings supplied from our attics and basements for the Women’s Oxford House. Fiscal Year 2017-2018 saw our first positive return from the Varsity Project – we added \$3,420.00 in rental income to the Operating Fund. The balance of the rental monies went to additional necessary improvements to our new properties. Fiscal year '18-'19 should see most of the rental income supplement the Operating Fund.

Our electrical and gas usage has remained fairly constant over the past few years despite increased use of our facility; due to prudence in installing upgraded and additional insulation, installation of smart thermostats, and changeovers to LED lighting. We average 3,000kw of electricity and 20 therms of natural gas use per month. Most of our electricity is now purchased from green and renewable energy generation sources.



**Endowment Fund**

**“I do want to explain that I think many people (including me) have felt that contributing to the Endowment Fund wasn’t doing anything for UUTC now, and that the \$100,000 threshold was far away; so maybe some folks couldn’t get excited about it. I don’t know why it didn’t occur to me earlier that making my legacy gift now was so much better, because UUTC could benefit from it in the immediate future, rather than waiting for me to die. And I will be able to see that happening.”**

*—Words from a confidential donor*

In July of 2015 when I began my first term as your Treasurer, the endowment fund had a balance of \$18,288.20. By December of that year the balance rose to \$38,715.33. The Board of Trustees codified policy concerning the Endowment Fund in early 2017 to read:

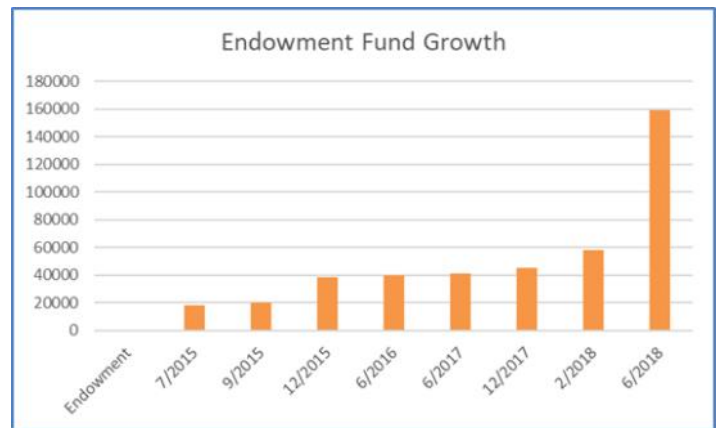
**Endowment Fund.**

*The UUTC endowment fund supports an enduring investment in the mission of UUTC. To that extent the funds may only be placed in socially responsible investments as with the UUA Common Endowment Fund, or similar vehicle. The intent is that the principal of the fund remains intact and grow with time. To that goal no withdrawals may be made from the Endowment Fund before the principal reaches \$100,000.00. Withdrawals may be made each fiscal year in the amount of 50% of the current year’s interest on*

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the principal, provided the principal is above the minimum set forth. The fund income may be used for community outreach, social justice, or educational and spiritual exploration programs. The fund income is not intended for and may not be used for operating or capital budget expenditures, except in the case of extraordinary need, where not using these funds threatens the existence of UUTC, as determined by the Board, and then only with the approval of 75% of the membership present at a quorum advertised 30 days in advance.



With our balance now exceeding the required minimum withdrawals may begin next spring and our Endowment Fund will be producing results in our community.

## Compliance

We completed our first ever financial review by an outside CPA firm the spring of 2018, and passed with only minor recommendations, several of which were immediately implemented. A copy of the report is in the church office.

## Future Recommendations

A. UUTC receives 89% of its operating income from the pockets and purses of its congregation. *This is not a recommended nor fiscally safe situation.* Income for a religious organization needs to have diverse sources so that it is not financially threatened should a large donor suddenly leave. The recommended safe level for congregational revenue is less than 80%.

- UUTC should consider using its facilities to generate income outside of its membership.
- The Board of Trustees and the Finance Committee should consider the income potential of every planned event or activity as a matter of course.

B. It is a given that cutting costs and minimizing investment in infrastructure is not a long-term solution for maximizing revenues. A business entity, and a religious organization is a business entity, must invest in itself to increase revenues. A well-maintained, attractive building creates desire to belong, and to rent the facilities. Events and activities supported by suggested donations brings people that may become interested in Unitarian Universalism or will pay to attend hosted events. Any hosted activity or event open to the public should generate sufficient revenue to be at least self-supporting. Rental properties can provide long-term steady income, and with forethought can remain tax-free. Providing community services such as childcare and education should operate at a net profit to benefit our congregation. It is not sufficient to cover our costs.

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C. UUTC should prioritize strategic planning. We are too complex to “wing it by the seat of our pants” any longer. Large decisions need to be considered in light of long-term planning. Depreciation on many assets is complete and plans for replacement are non-existent.

### *Conclusion*

I have been truly honored to serve as your Treasurer for three terms. It has been a pleasure and a personal growth experience to work with the five Stewardship Teams, and the three Finance Committees and Boards of Trustees. UUTC is blessed to have so many highly experienced people within diverse fields willing to serve this congregation.

Sincerely,

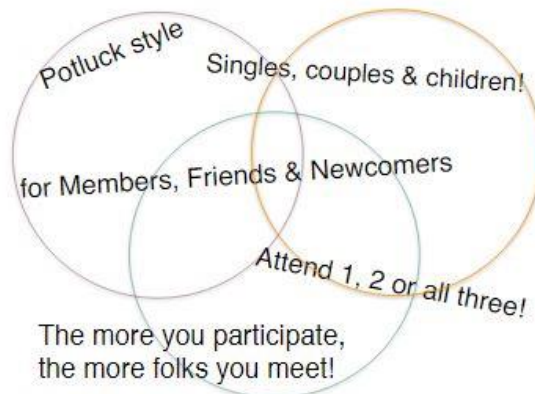
Dave Roberts

**DUE TO REV. ILENE'S  
SCHEDULE,  
TEAM MEETING  
NIGHT WILL BE ON  
WEDNESDAY,  
AUGUST 15TH.**

## **CIRCLE DINNERS: FALL EDITION**



**August 17 \* September 21 \* October 19**



Sign-ups below. You are not required to host! Contact Elizabeth Thompson (828-384-0778) for more information.

Circle Dinners have been scheduled for August 19, September 21 & October 19. The mission of Circle Dinners is to create greater connections among Members, Friends and Newcomers. Circle Dinners are potluck with a single, couple or couple with children hosting in their home. If you do host, it's for one time and then you are a participant for the other nights. Folks are encouraged to participate in two or three dinners. Participants are assigned in a way that there are at least two people they've met from the previous dinner. The more you participate, the more folks you meet! Sign-ups and more information are at the counter. Contact Elizabeth Thompson (828-384-0778) for more information.

## TUBE THE DAVIDSON!



Tube the Davidson with our neighboring UU's from Hendersonville, UUFH. This is an annual UUFH family ministry tubing / picnic lunch at Davidson River event on the morning of Sunday August 12th. You may RSVP to Heather Layton, [creuutc@gmail.com](mailto:creuutc@gmail.com) or call 828-553-3810. Start times and additional details to be determined.

## IF YOU ARE A MEMBER, THE BEST DIRECTORY IS ON YOUR SMARTPHONE

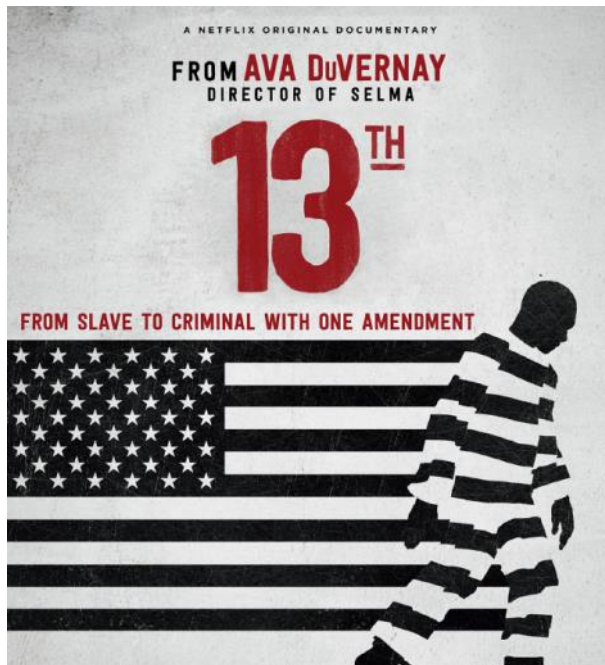
Contact Directories are really important for us all to stay connected. But did you know that the **ChurchLife** app is available to Members? It is easy to use and is the most up-to-date resource for reaching other members of UUTC.

You can download and install the app from either Google Play or the Apple App Store. **Before you can use it, however, you will need a password from our ACS database.**



**To get that password, go to our Member page on the website:** <http://uutc.org/member/>, scroll down to the red "ACS" logo and click on it. It will direct you to the ACS login/get a password page. On that page, **look below the login** box for "Need a Password," and enter your email there. This will connect you to ACS and they will email you with a way to select a password to use with the **ChurchLife** app.

*If you do not receive an email from Access ACS/UUTC within a few hours,* and you use Comporium email, call Comporium Tech Support and ask them to release this email from your Spam folder. Since the email does not look like our "usual," they assume that it's bad stuff and are trying to protect you. They will ask you to verify the last four digits of your SSN to make sure you are you, and they can fix this very quickly. Then you can complete the password process and start connecting!



## 13TH — IMPORTANT DOCUMENTARY

**August 9 @ 6:00 p.m.**

**Ingram Auditorium, Dunham  
Brevard College**

*Center for Spiritual Wisdom* tries to hold together spirituality and the needs of the world. To this end, we are happy to co-sponsor one of this summer's "Voices of Justice" events. We're partnering with Brevard College's Office of Spiritual and Religious Life to offer a public viewing of Ava DuVernay's documentary "13th", an Academy Award nominee. The documentary examines the root causes of mass incarceration in

America. Might the 13th Amendment of our Constitution be a key factor? Come watch, think, and join your neighbors to discuss this vital issue: August 9 at 6:00 p.m. at Ingram Auditorium in Brevard College's Dunham building.

**Resources  
FOR  
Resilience**



**— HELP FOR TRAUMATIZED KIDS &  
THOSE WHO CARE FOR & TEACH THEM**

***Eleanor Mockridge***

I want to inform you about an opportunity you may have already heard about through other channels. **A morning meeting has been scheduled, for Tuesday, July 31, free-of-charge,** at the Transylvania County School District office to give locals a glimpse, sort of a peek preview, regarding a system for helping kids, teachers, and other care providers acquire "tools" to help with resilience. Please follow the link below to learn more about the whole program. If you or someone you know would like to attend the sneak peek, please contact Sheila Mooney (828 884-4560) or Dr. Gibbs's office (828 884-6173) by Monday, July 23. (Leave a contact email in case there is any change in venue because of audience size.)

Those of us on the NAACP Education Committee are helping spread the word because our committee is dedicated to helping youth, especially those in poverty or of color or with high ACES scores, succeed academically and in life. The name of the organization which teaches the coping tools is Resources for Resilience (Asheville-based) and the simple system of "tools" which they teach is called "[Reconnect for Resilience](#)." The July morning meeting is NOT a training session, but just an introduction for folks to discern whether they want to sign up for the training workshop later this year.

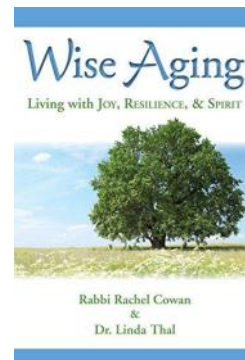


## SCHOOL SUPPLIES

UUTC is partnering with **EI Centro** and **Sharing House** to help provide school supplies for children in our community. If you would like to donate supplies, please place new articles in the box at UUTC's lobby by August 12<sup>th</sup> so that children can have the supplies prior to their first day of school. The following supplies are needed at various elementary grade levels:

- ◆ Backpacks
- ◆ colored pencils in boxes
- ◆ crayons (16 or 24 count)
- ◆ Elmer's glue sticks
- ◆ erasers (pink)
- ◆ folders (two-pocket with no design)
- ◆ marbled composition books
- ◆ markers
- ◆ notebook paper (wide-ruled)
- ◆ pencil boxes
- ◆ pencil cases with zippers
- ◆ school glue (white, in bottles)
- ◆ scissors (for little hands)
- ◆ spiral notebooks
- ◆ three-ring binders
- ◆ tissues (boxes)
- ◆ towels for rest time (for napping on)
- ◆ wooden pencils (good quality, American made)

## STARTING SEPTEMBER 11TH: AGING WISELY BOOK STUDY



Aging is not a choice. Aging wisely is. This is an invitation to join Don and Linda Lander and a group of your fellow UUs in community and share your journey as you pursue the goal of aging wisely. We will read the book *Aging Wisely* by Rabbi Rachel Cowan and Dr. Linda Thal as a guide.

Some quotes from the book: "What does retirement mean now that there are so many opportunities for learning, for caring, for serving? We can redefine aging."

"If the opportunity arises, consider forming your own group of friends and others who are wrestling with these matters, for spiritual work often flourishes best when supported by community."

The course is designed to create this kind of supportive community. To that end the group will adopt a covenant, an agreement as to how we will conduct ourselves in the group. Most importantly the covenant includes: Extending and presuming welcome. Listening actively without judgment. No interrupting, fixing or advice giving. Everyone will have the chance to share as deeply as they wish and it is not "share or die." Confidentiality will be maintained. Members are asked to share their own truth and experience.

The book contains many "Reflection Questions." Answering these questions from our own experience will keep the sharing of the group on topic. The book also contains exercises and help in establishing a spiritual practice.

The group will meet every Tuesday, except for holidays, from 3:00 to 5:00PM at the church starting on September 11. If you have questions you can email Don at [donnald.lander@gmail.com](mailto:donnald.lander@gmail.com) or Linda at [holnurse@comporium.net](mailto:holnurse@comporium.net).

## MAY I MAKE YOU A CUP OF COFFEE?

Have you noticed the lovely people behind the coffee urns on Sunday mornings? At least two new teams are needed to make it a once a quarter opportunity to serve in more ways than one. Teams prepare before or during first service, serve between the two and clean up during the second service. Instructions and training are provided.

Sign up on the office counter or contact Susan Slocum at [suslocum@yahoo.com](mailto:suslocum@yahoo.com).

For the veterans, Susan is looking for a volunteer to take over scheduling as she has become Treasurer. Your choice of methodology! Instructions and training provided.



## NEW GOVERNANCE/MINISTRY ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR 2018-2019



With a settled minister now firmly in place, it was time for a refresh of the Advisory Council. The composition of the Council is a past-president, 2 ministerial appointees and 2 Board appointees. The Board President and the Minister are Ex-Officio members.

Council responsibilities are varied—while serving as a “listening ear” is one component, visioning, strategic planning and conducting of an annual Governance & Ministry Planning Retreat are crucial pieces that will more intentional launch this year.

This year's members are Leigh Johnson, Becky Langerman, Bruce Kirkman, Michael Solomon and Carol Moore. Thanks to these leaders!

## FEELING THE BURN • MONDAY, JULY 30TH 6:30PM



All fun aside, the Brevard City Fire Department will be “on campus” at 6:00pm on Monday night. Their trucks will be in the lower parking lot, close to #52 (the doomed structure).

This *is* a training exercise. The fire will be started in one room, allowing the Captain to mimic an “ordinary” fire scenario. The fire will not be allowed to just take off— care is to be taken to protect the red oak at the corner of the property, in addition to the #74 Olympia Brown Oxford House and the #46 Chalice House.

That said, it’s not going to be exactly cool around the perimeter. If you intend to come “toast the burn,” it is recommended you park at the very front of the church or along Broad street. The *Keys to the Kingdom* class meets during this time frame, so you may need to park across the street if you can’t walk to the spectacle. Do not use the lower lot or the county lot across the street from the house. Windows have been known to crack.

The Fire Department was delivering notices to the neighborhood Thursday. Cross your fingers that all non-targets and fire personnel survive the exercise!

# THE “YOU” IN UUTC SOCIAL ACTION

## SHARING HOUSE 5TH SUNDAY

July is a month with FIVE Sundays, so UUTC will be collecting food for Sharing House at the end of the month. Baskets will be available in the lobby for your donations July 22 and 29. Please take with you a list of most needed items from the basket on the counter.

The non-food items most needed by Sharing House are diapers, (sizes 5 and 6), laundry detergent, tampons (super), toilet paper, and paper towels. These items cannot be purchased with food stamps.

## FIX IT: HEALTHCARE AT THE TIPPING POINT September 20th, 2018 — 6:30-8:00pm at UUTC

FIX IT: Healthcare at the Tipping Point will be shown, comments given by Marsha Fretwell MD, and a discussion facilitated by Kyra Moore and Dr. Fretwell. The documentary reaches across the political and ideological divide and makes the case for business leaders to support major healthcare reform. The system, as is, is inefficient, has limited accessibility and is cost prohibitive to business and families. Is Medicare for all as a single payer system the solution? This event is sponsored by Healthcare for All, Physicians for a National Health Program and the Transylvania Branch of the NAACP.

## Inclusive. Intentional. INVOLVED.

*Our Mission, as a welcoming, inclusive community acting from love, compassion and respect is:*

*To support individual spiritual journeys and  
To promote social, economic and  
environmental justice.*



SOUTHERN REGION



## KEEP UP WITH WHAT'S HAPPENING!!!

VIEW our “insider” [church calendar](#). For previous issues of the UUTC Update, click [HERE](#).

SEND news for this newsletter by 10:00am on Wednesdays.

## CONTACT US

Need Pastoral Care? Call Rev. Ilene at (877) 510-5603.

Church office hours are Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. until noon and by appointment. The church telephone number is 828-877-6121. Our mailing address is UUTC, PO Box 918, Brevard, NC 28712. Our website is [www.uutc.org](http://www.uutc.org). Our church is located at the corner of Varsity Street and South Broad Street in Brevard. Our email address is [admin@uutc.org](mailto:admin@uutc.org).